

Finding of No Significant Impact
Eradication of Isolated Populations of Light Brown Apple Moth in California
Revised Environmental Assessment
June, 2007

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has prepared a revised environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes potential environmental consequences of eradicating isolated populations of light brown apple moth (*Epiphyas postvittana*) (LBAM) in California. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available online at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/downloads/lbam-ea-07-18-07.pdf and from:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Emergency Management
4700 River Road, Unit 134
Riverdale, MD 20737-1236

The revised EA analyzed alternatives consisting of (1) maintaining the Federal quarantine order without further action by APHIS (no action alternative), and (2) continuation of the Federal quarantine order along with eradication of isolated populations of LBAM in California with the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) and/or LBAM-specific pheromone (treatment alternative). The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts from eradication treatments of small, isolated populations and determined that any potential impacts would be limited. Since the circumstances surrounding each isolated population are unique, each site will be considered in a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) prior to treatment. This FONSI addresses the treatment for LBAM in the southern part of Sonoma and Napa Counties in California (see attachment 1).

Treatment in Sonoma-II Eradication Area

Six more male LBAMs have been trapped over the past few months in the Sonoma area. This area is just north of another eradication zone where nine LBAM moths were found (2009 Isolated Treatment Areas: Sonoma / Napa). This area consists of mostly agricultural plots with very few residents. An eradication zone has been defined around these finds (see attachment 1). This FONSI addresses not only treatment for the six finds but also any additional finds within the eradication boundary. Maps for future treatment sites within this potential treatment area will be posted online at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/lbam.shtml

When an LBAM is found within this eradication boundary, a 200-meter radius area will be defined as a treatment area for each find. The treatment areas will be treated with Isomate-LBAM plus (pheromone-impregnated twist ties) at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre by attaching the twist ties to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures. The twist ties allow for the continual release of pheromone over the course of 120 days. The twist ties will be removed after two LBAM life cycles (a lifecycle could be up to six months in certain areas). In some cases the twist ties may be replaced for additional treatments. When all treatments are completed, the twist ties will be removed.

The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts of eradication treatments of small isolated populations like the ones in the eradication zone. Due to the nature of the dispenser and the pheromone itself, there will be no impacts to human health and limited, if any, impacts to nontarget species because the product is contained in dispensers that are tied to fixtures and will be removed after treatment. The pheromone itself has been shown to attract several native tortricids as well as a pyralid based on trap catches that are baited with LBAM pheromone. However, each of these species has a widespread distribution and therefore any impact to these non-targets will be minimal and localized. In addition, there will be no negative cumulative effects from this action in combination with any other actions because the treatments in isolated population areas will not be combined with other LBAM eradication tools.

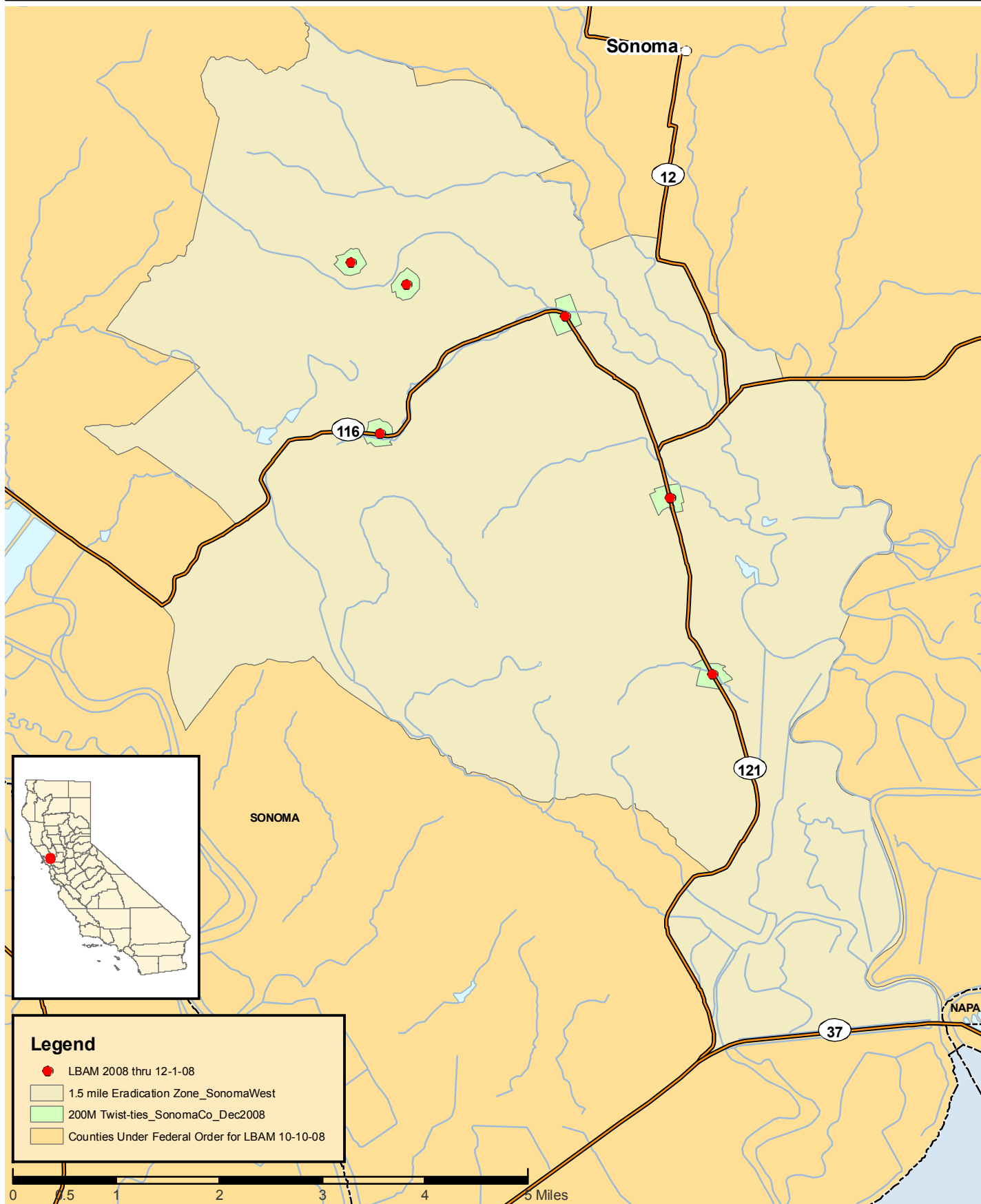
APHIS conducted an online query of the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office's species lists available at http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/spp_lists/auto_list_form.cfm. APHIS has reviewed the eradication boundary and the potential for co-occurrence of listed species and critical habitat. Based on our review of the eradication zone we have determined there is potential for the treatment areas to co-occur within the range of several listed species and critical habitat; we are consulting further with the FWS to determine if any protection measures are necessary. In addition, APHIS has consulted the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding the co-occurrence of the Central California Coast steelhead and received confirmation that the deployment of twist ties will not affect the species or its habitat. Once consultation is completed with the FWS, if deemed necessary, APHIS will incorporate any necessary protection measures to ensure the deployment of twist ties will not adversely affect listed species or their designated critical habitat.

APHIS' finding of no significant impact for the treatments within the eradication boundary is based upon the expected limited environmental consequences, as analyzed in the EA. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared if implementation of the proposed action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. I have determined that there would be no significant impact to the human environment from the implementation of the treatment alternative and, therefore, no EIS needs to be prepared.

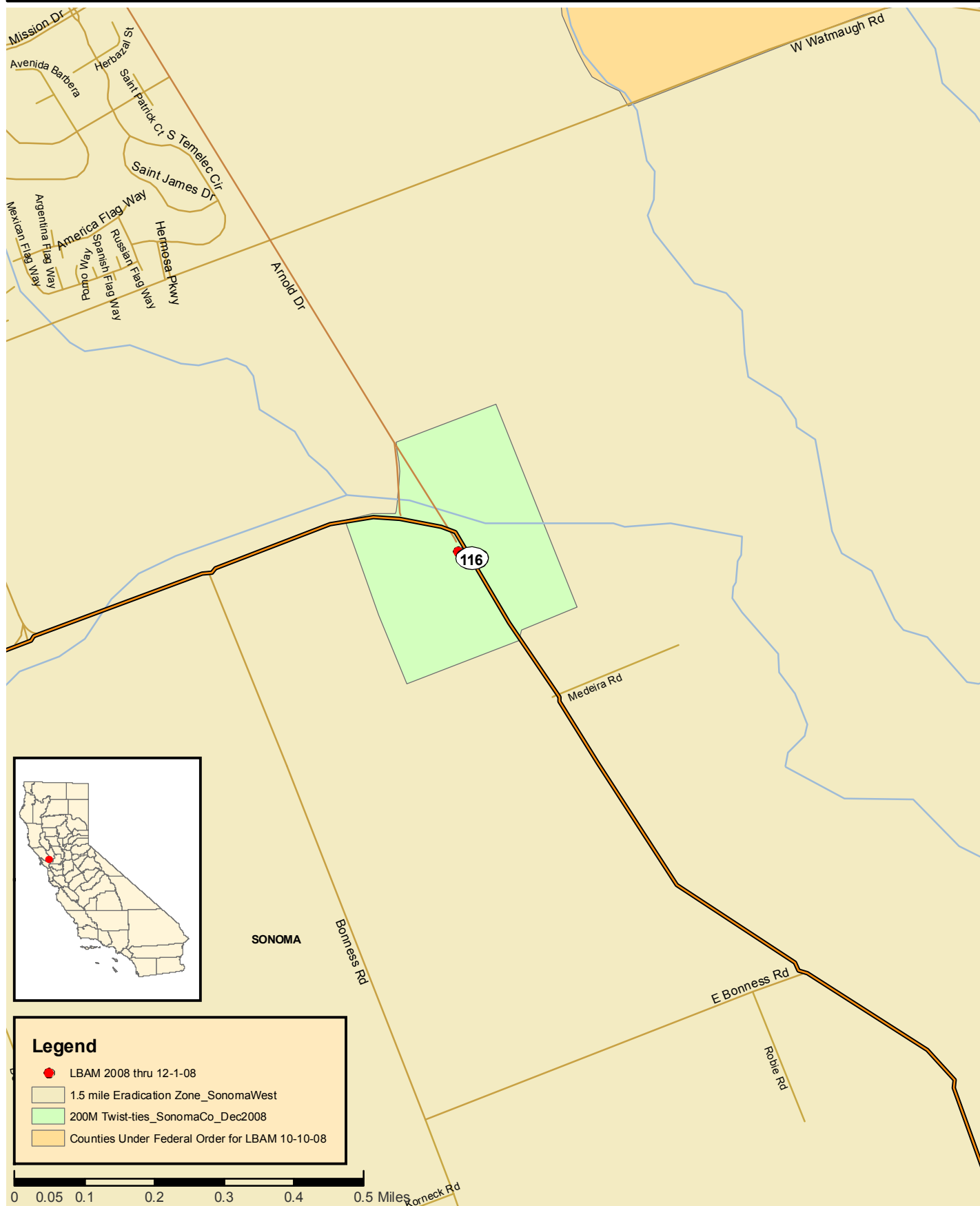
Osama El-Lissy
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency

Date

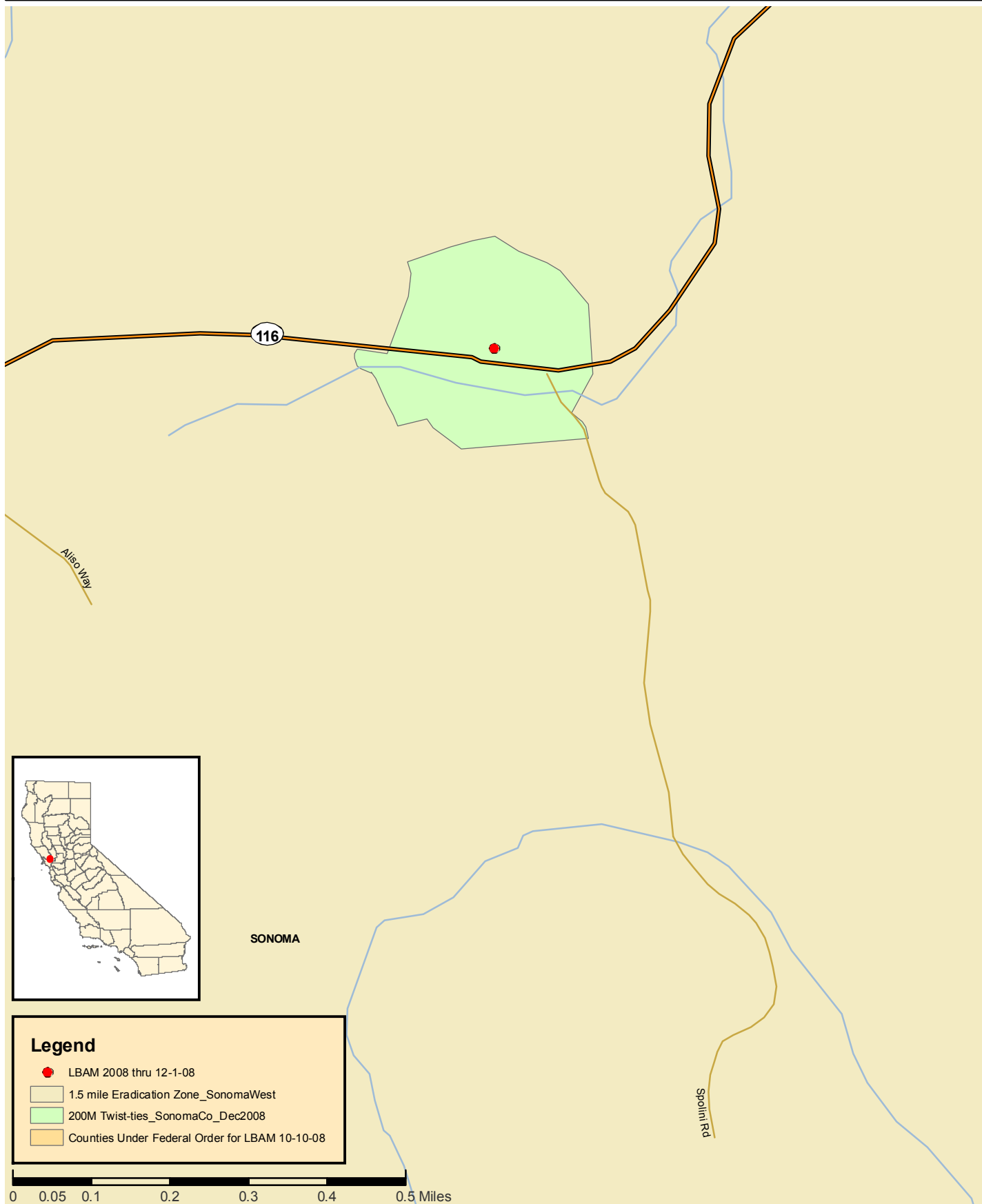
Ground-based Mating Disruption for Light Brown Apple Moth Sonoma County, CA - December, 2008



Ground-based Mating Disruption for Light Brown Apple Moth Stage Gulch Rd, Sonoma County, CA - December, 2008



Ground-based Mating Disruption for Light Brown Apple Moth Stage Gulch Rd, Sonoma County, CA - December, 2008



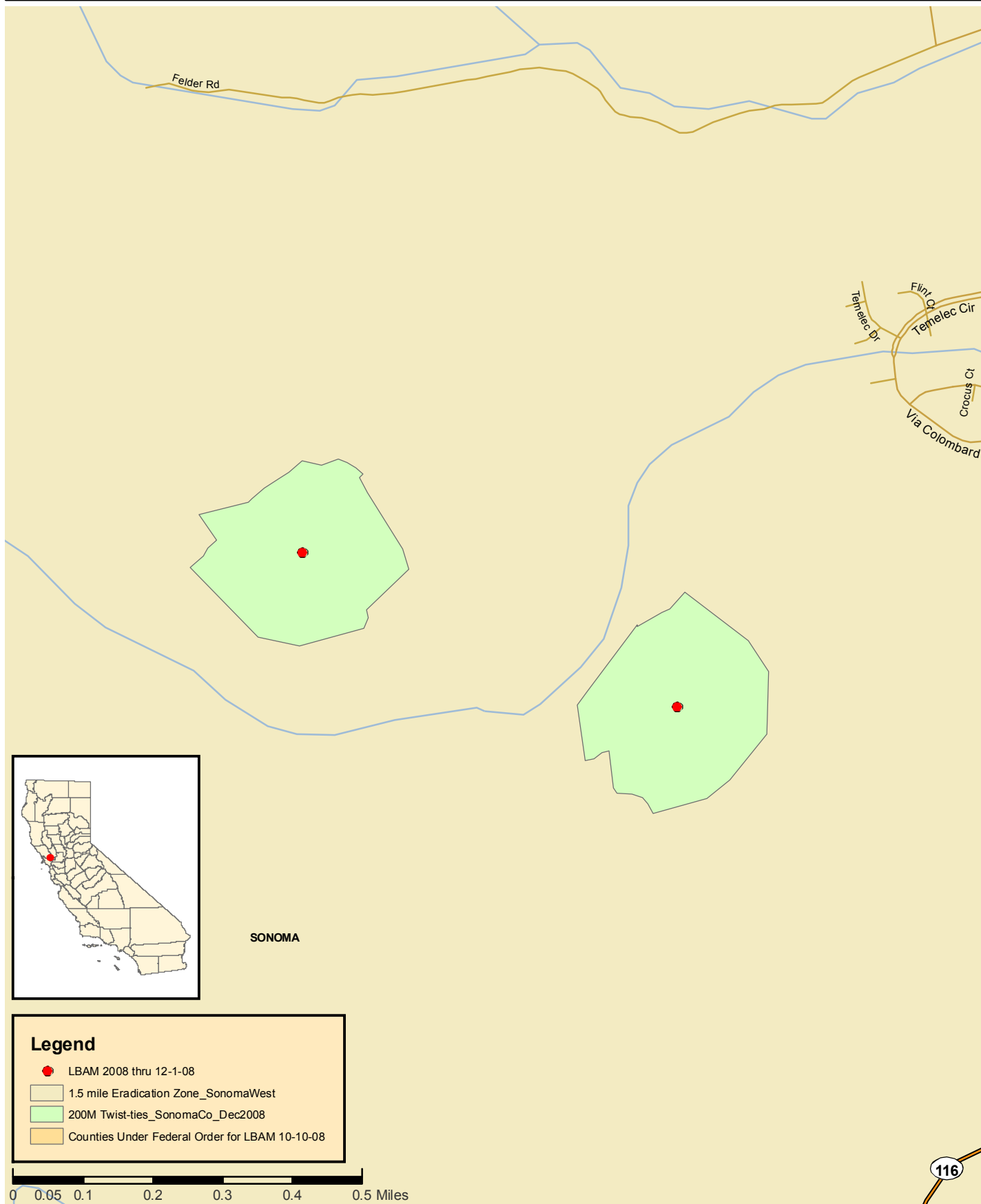
Legend

- LBAM 2008 thru 12-1-08
- 1.5 mile Eradication Zone_SonomaWest
- 200M Twist-ties_SonomaCo_Dec2008
- Counties Under Federal Order for LBAM 10-10-08

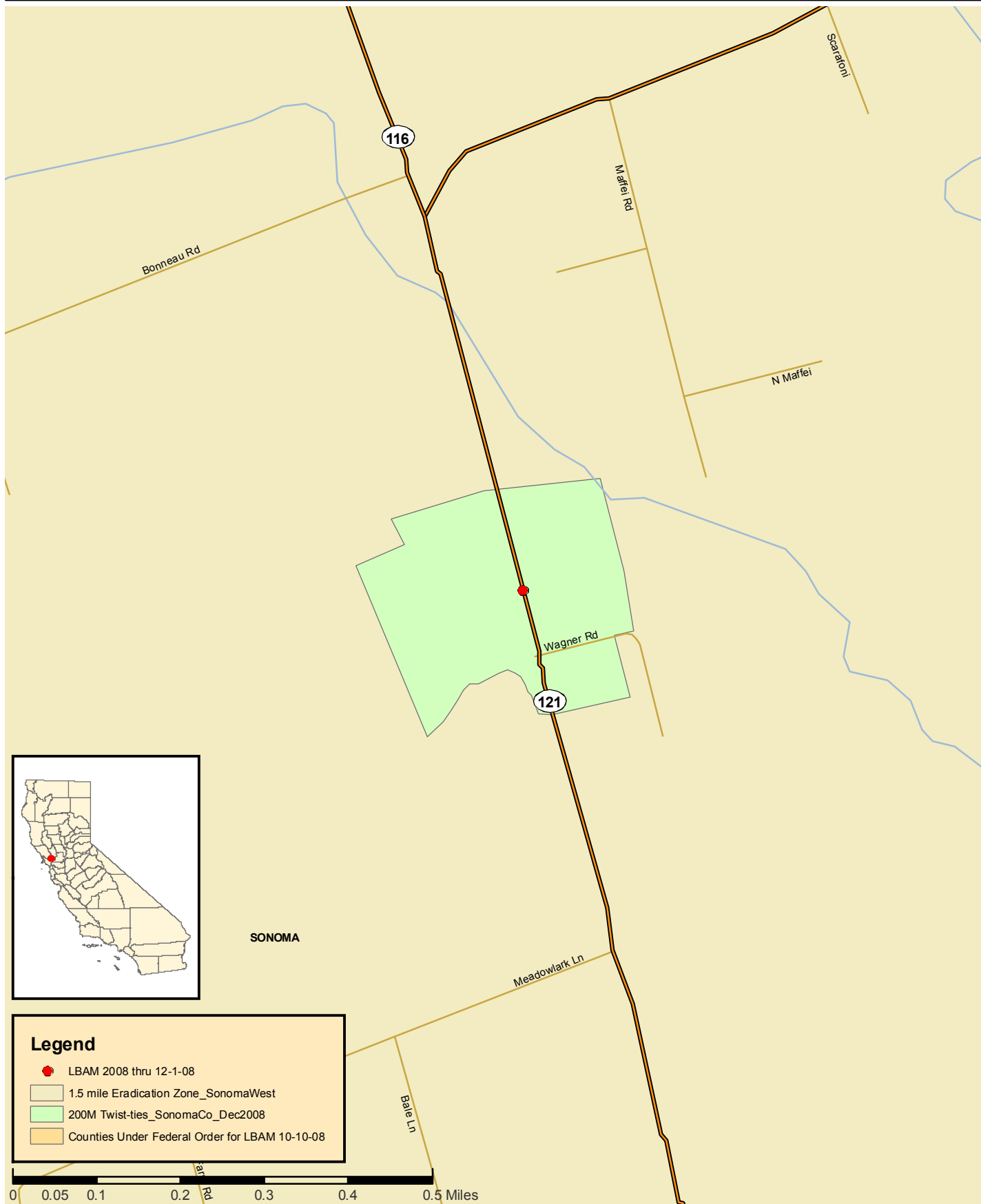
0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles



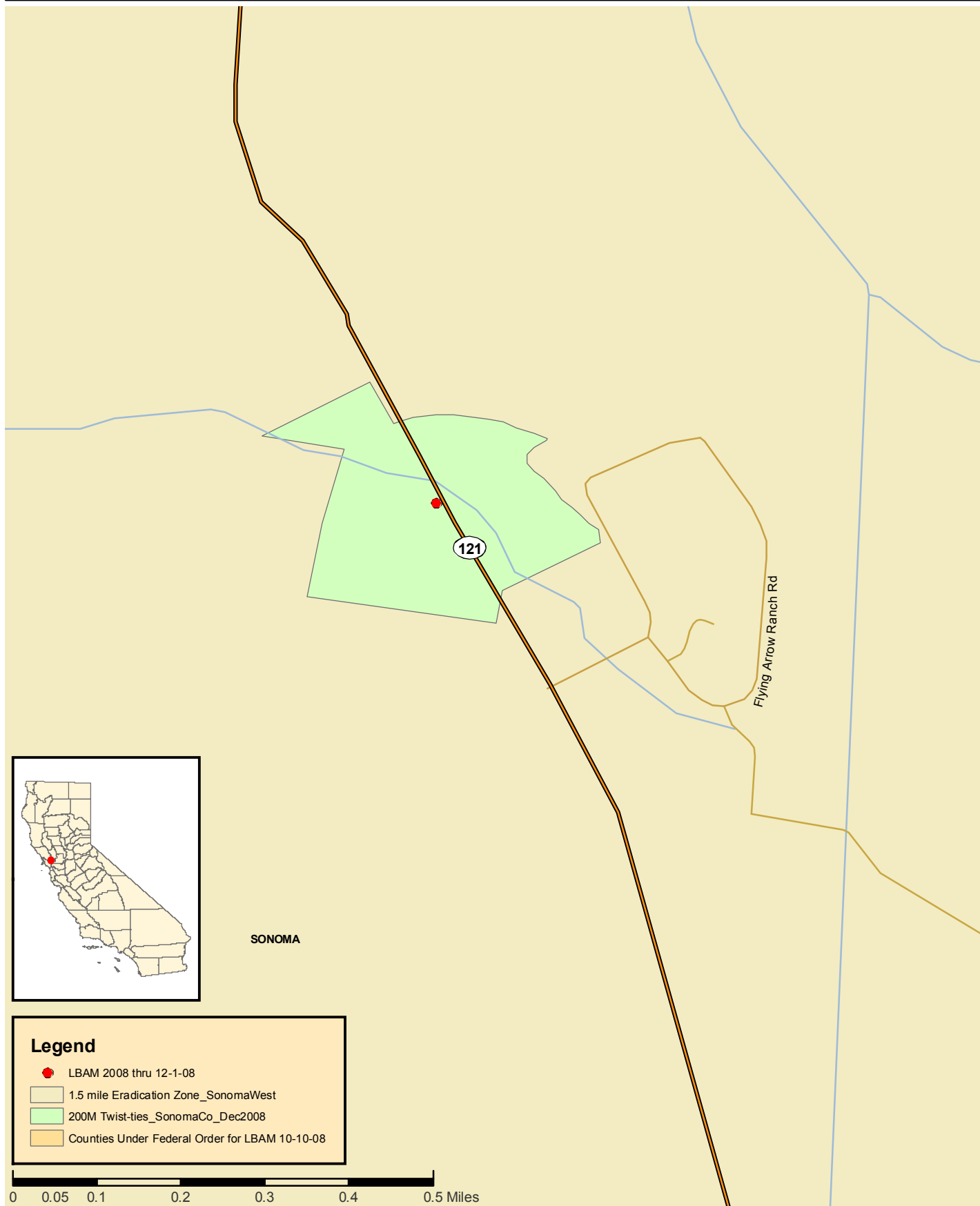
Ground-based Mating Disruption for Light Brown Apple Moth Felder Rd, Sonoma County, CA - December, 2008



Ground-based Mating Disruption for Light Brown Apple Moth Arnold Dr, Sonoma County, CA - December, 2008



Ground-based Mating Disruption for Light Brown Apple Moth Arnold Dr, Sonoma County, CA - December, 2008



Legend

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- Counties Under Federal Order for LBAM 10-10-08

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 Miles

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Sacramento, CA 95814

Coordinate System:
CA Teale Albers, NAD 83
Date Created: December 4, 2008

Data Source:
CA Dept of Food and Agriculture
USDA, APHIS, PPQ
TeleAtlas Dynamap



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